

## **“JESUS WANTS US TO BE HIS DISCIPLES”**

We will do well to consider that *Jesus wants us to be His disciples*. Sometimes we think that when we obeyed the first steps of the gospel we did all that is necessary to attain heaven. We may think that, having obtained membership in the Lord’s church, our salvation is certain. But there is a big difference between becoming “member of the church” and becoming a disciple.

It is discipleship that the Lord wants, and without that, nothing else matters very much. In Bible times, the idea of discipleship was more familiar than it is now. In those days, before the existence of universities and trade schools, if one wanted to become learned in a certain field or skilled at some craft, one found a scholar or master craftsman and became his “disciple.”

The disciple often lived with his master. He and the master became intimate friends. The disciple not only learned the information available from his master, but he also patterned his life after him. He ate and drank with his master. He traveled with him. He emulated his master’s words and actions and attitudes. He tried to become like his master, believing him to be worthy of such imitation. There was a personal relationship of friendship and trust, in which the master shared what he knew with his disciple and the disciple patterned himself after his master.

We ought to seek that kind of relationship with Christ. He wants us to follow Him, to learn from Him, to become His friends. He wants us to “walk” with Him, to live with Him day and night, absorbing His skill in living and adopting His way of thinking. He desires that we become so devoted to Him as our Master that it becomes the height of our ambition to be just like Him.

He wants us to be His disciples! And it is a far more personal thing than we often make it out to be. It is more than the dry and dusty obligation of doing what He demands. Instead, it is the privilege of learning life from the Lord of life in a relationship of closest intimacy. Discipleship is not a hoop we have to jump through to gain heaven.

It is a blessing even now. In the long run, “Christianity” without genuine discipleship is worthless. Many have thought that having their names on the roll of some faithful congregation assured their entrance into eternal glory. But the gospel which saves is the gospel which produces disciples (Mt. 28:19). So the question this week is: are we disciples? **DP**

### **MONTHLY SERMON PREVIEW**

**MAY 8: MINDFUL OF MOTHERS**  
**MAY 15: STUMPED**

**MAY 22: SIZING UP SATAN**  
**MAY 29: OFF THE WALL**

# *The Salisbury Beacon*

## **Salisbury Church of Christ**

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Salisbury, MD 21804

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Douglas Post, Minister  
410-742-4831

Office Hours: Tues-Thurs. 10AM-2PM

**MAY 8, 2016**

## **WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY**

We appreciate your willingness to worship God with us this Lord’s Day! If you would like more information about the Church of Christ, or if we may assist you in other ways, please let us know. **BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR FAMILY– *The Salisbury Church of Christ.***

\*\*\*\*Please fill out a Visitor’s Card and place it in the collection plate\*\*\*\*

## **ORDER OF OUR WORSHIP**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPENING PRAYER**

SONG # 591 – COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

SONG # 19 – HOW GREAT THOU ART

### **PRAYER**

### **SCRIPTURE – GENESIS 3:13-20**

SONG # 296 – OLD RUGGED CROSS

### **LORD’S SUPPER**

### **CONTRIBUTION**

SONG # 853 – TRUST AND OBEY

### **SERMON: “MINDFUL OF MOTHERS**

SONG # 867 – ALMOST PERSUADED

SONG # 641 – THE CHURCH’S ONE FOUNDATION

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRAYERS**

**LET US PRAY FOR:** for both spiritual and numerical growth of our church. Debbie Post, Jimmy McMillon, Stella Reidy, Wilma Duke's mother (dementia), Geri Plourde (cancer), Jenn Striecker (cancer), Jack Callaway, Katie Gray, Flossie Hull, Barbara Kuykendall, John Tillman, Paul Marchesault, Marilyn Artis, Linda Alaban, Florence Tucker, the Jones/Dale family, the Gibson family, Larry Laten, Prince Ituen and all missionaries and military personnel serving overseas.

- **Jane Willie will be leaving us and Mother's Day will be her last with us.** We will miss her greatly! Please keep her in your prayers for a safe move. God speed!
- **Jan King**, Bob's sister, had surgery on 5/2 for removal of kidney. Please keep her in your prayers.
- **Eva Post** is home at Doug's. Her recovery is going very well.
- **Doug Post** will be speaking at the Bellview Lectureship, Pensacola, FL – June 10-14.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**May 8 (Sunday)** Mother's Day

**May 8 (Sunday)** Evangelism Meeting (10-15 minutes)

**June 4 (Saturday)** Ladies Bible Class

**June 5 (Sunday)** Pot Luck

## **FOR STUDY & REFLECTION OF BACK ARTICLE**

**(Monday: Matthew 28:16-20)**

Key Idea: When we obey the gospel of Christ, we enter into a discipleship. Questions for Growth: In vv.18-19, what did Jesus command His apostles to do? What were they to teach those who were baptized? On the basis of this passage, what would you say a "disciple" is? Wisdom for the Day: Proverbs 12:5-6.

**(Wednesday: John 8:31; 15:14)**

Key Idea: A disciple is one who learns from and obeys his master. Questions for Growth: If we say we are Jesus' disciples but we do not obey Him, is that not contradictory? In Jn. 15:14, what did Jesus say we are if we do what He commands us? How can we know what Jesus wants us to do? Wisdom for the Day: Proverbs 12:7.

**(Friday: John 15:1-11)**

Key Idea: Jesus' disciples are those who bear much fruit for Him. Questions for Growth: In practical terms, how do we "bear fruit" for Jesus Christ? What will happen if we say we are Jesus' disciples but do not bear fruit? Will Jesus help us do the things that He wants us to do? Wisdom for the Day: Proverbs 12:8.

## **"BY WHOSE AUTHORITY?"**

Not long ago, the following statement appeared in a national magazine: "*No one religion is better than the other. Stop the hate and murder of those who don't believe the same as you.*"

The first sentence is false. One religion is better than all others because it has been verified to be true. While all religions may have some value, there is only one that accounts adequately for the origin of all things. Only one religion was foretold with hundreds of prophecies centuries in advance. Only one religion sets forth the highest morality possible. Only one answers questions as to why things are the way they are—everything from natural disasters to pain and suffering. Only one provides a remedy for sin—mankind's greatest problem. Only one reveals the truth about existence after death. What religion—besides Christianity—does all of these things? Not one!

So by whose authority does someone say, "No one religion is better than the other"? Who possesses such knowledge and insight? There is no higher authority to confirm what this individual said beyond the person who said it, which means that no one is required to accept it. In fact, if all religions are the same, all of us face an immediate dilemma—that of contradiction. Suppose one religion teaches, "Love thy neighbor," and another one champions, "Kill thy neighbor."

If all religions are equal, then the actions of loving and killing must be equal. If not, why not? In fact, the author of the original statement must endorse contradiction in any area of disagreement between two or more religions. As Thomas B. Warren showed in his debates with atheists, unbelief in an objective God means that no authority for morality exists; therefore, abortion is both right and wrong. The same goes for stealing, gambling, drunkenness, and every other moral issue.

Without an objective source for morality (as saying that all religions are equal implies), everything falls into the realm of the subjective—with chaos resulting. Is the original statement aimed at fanatical Muslims, or is some other religion hating and murdering people on a grand scale? If radical Muslims are the audience, they too will ask, "By what authority do you say our religion is no better than others?" Does the questioner think his mere affirmation will suffice? If they would listen at all, they would see that Christianity is superior—not equal! — Brother Gary W. Summers, Winter Park, FL.

## **WHEN THE SAINTS MEET HERE IN SALISBURY**

**Sunday Bible Study – 9:30 AM    Sunday Worship – 10:30 AM**

**Wednesday Bible Study – 6 PM**